

Michigan Department of Transportation's
2008 Research Summit



Research Leads Change

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Changes in Michigan

- Population shifts
- Repositioning in the global economy
- Changing transportation infrastructure
- Different transportation needs

The Road Ahead

This is captured in *MI Transportation Plan: 2005-2030*

- Long-range plan to transform the state's transportation system
- Recognizes that MDOT needs to respond with new approaches



MDOT's Response

- MDOT is putting renewed focus on
 - Performance measures
 - Accountability
 - Responsiveness
- This is reflected in changes in MDOT's research program, which is evolving along with the entire agency

Why is Research Important to MDOT?

- Research is a valuable tool for the agency.
- Research can help MDOT
 - Meet its short-term and longer-term needs
 - Better deliver services
 - Do more with less resources
 - Identify new issues on the horizon
 - Find new ways to solve old problems

Research is an Executive Priority

- MDOT executives met recently to discuss critical issues for the department
- The next step:
 - How can research address these issues?
 - How can we implement research results to improve practice and add value?

Your Participation is Vital

- This summit is that next step and an important part of the new research biennium
 - The summit brings together research stakeholders from across the state.
 - Participants will begin filling in the details on how research can help MDOT address the state's needs.